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FACT SHEET

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Ideals Made Real: Jury Service Orientation Film

California's jury service orientation film features interviews with former jurors and an introduction to the one-day or one-trial system and provides a thoughtful and accessible overview of the juror experience.

Improving Jury Service

Ideals Made Real—taped in a Superior Court of Alameda County courtroom—was developed by the Judicial Council's Task Force on Jury System Improvements as part of a larger statewide effort to:

- Improve the experience of jurors;
- Encourage citizens' participation in the jury system;
- Improve citizens' understanding of the judicial system; and
- Recognize the right to a trial by jury of one's peers as a core function of our democracy.

The film contains segments on the jury selection process, the trial process, and jury deliberations. Four former jurors share their experiences to help potential jurors feel more comfortable and prepare to be jurors. For example, one says, "I came out feeling very positive, more confident about the system, and if I were called back in again, I would be there to help our community." Another comments: "You could have seen juries in action in a movie. But it's not the same. There's no substitute for experiencing it yourself."

Distribution

The Administrative Office of the Courts has distributed *Ideals Made Real*, along with other educational materials, to all of California's superior courts. While the 14-minute film was designed especially for screening in a jury assembly room or courtroom, it also serves as a valuable public education tool and has been used in classrooms around the state. The film can also be viewed directly from the California Courts Web site at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jury/, or a copy can be obtained upon request to Kristin Greenaway at the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) by e-mail at kristin.greenaway@jud.ca.gov.

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Additional information for jurors is also available at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jury/.

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